

FADE IN:

EXT. GARDEN -- DAY

An **ELDERLY WOMAN** (mum) is standing in a **BACK GARDEN**. She is waving a **LETTER** at an **OLD MAN** (Dad), her Chinese husband, who is doing martial arts exercises.

She approaches him and takes the **LETTER** from its **ENVELOPE**.

There is a bundle of **HOLIDAY SNAPS** in with it. She reads:

MUM

Dear Mum and Dad. We are well and having a good time, although Suzie and I did have a bit of an adventure when we were hitching.

DAD shakes his head indicating an air of disapproving resignation, as he does when we see him throughout.

SNAPSHOT 1: Click We see two girls. One, Suzie, is the daughter of the elderly couple seen earlier, the other is Jaquie, her friend.

They're student age and grinning into a camera balanced on a branch while making hitching gestures with their thumbs.

CUT

EXT. ROADSIDE IN THE COUNTRY -- DAY

The girls stop grinning into the camera, laugh, then run over to the **CAMERA**, pick it up and run to the **ROAD**. They see a **CAR** coming then and try to thumb it down.

It doesn't stop. Another. Then a third (A bit beaten up, a bit dusty and a bit flash.) It stops.

We see **TWO MEN**, young, good looking and smiling.

The **MEN** get out and with a great show of humorous bowing and scraping and holding car doors open show **SUZIE** into the **FRONT SEAT** and Jaquie into the **BACK SEAT**

JOHN

John, at your service, madam.

SUZIE

Ooh! Charmed I'm sure. You may call me Suzie.

DAVE

Dave - your servant.

JAQUIE

Jaqueline. My friends call me Jaquie

CUT

SNAPSHOT 2: Click, click. We see the girls making slightly pained, O M G here we go again, faces at their new companions. (By the look of it, these are girls who are used to the idea that young men fancy them so they do not appear too bothered.)

INT. CAR -- DAY

JOHN

Where are you two going to?

SUZIE

Just the next town? It's only a few miles up the road, isn't it?

JAQUIE

But we're through with walking for one day.

DAVE

Like a nice lie down, would you?

SUZIE

Sitting's just fine.

JOHN touches SUZIE'S THIGH as he changes gear. She slaps his hand away.

In the back seat DAVE tries to put his arm around Jacky's SHOULDER.

She pushes him away - at arm's length.

This continues for a while.

We see the view OUTSIDE THE CAR WINDOW go by faster.

JOHN

You girls aren't very friendly, are you?

SUZIE

Oh, we're friendly. it's just that we don't want to - you know...

JOHN

Don't want to what, love?

SUZIE

She's trying to say that we have boyfriends. They wouldn't like it.

The SPEEDOMETER needle climb steadily.

DAVE

You don't want to worry about them. they'll never know what happened.

JAQUIE

They will, trust me.

In the rear view mirror we see John shaking his head.

DAVE

But we won't tell them.

We see the speedometer climbing

SUZIE

What's the hurry?

JOHN

I want to get where we're all going, of course.

SUZIE

Town, right?

JOHN

Ye, right. But first a little shortcut - to look at the scenery.

DAVE

You'll like the scenery He reaches for SUZIE again. This time she pushes him away with real power and aggression - not a shred of good humour.

He bangs his head on a window.

DAVE

Bitch!

The speeding car leaves the road and heads off up a wooded track for a while.

Click - snapshot, Click - snapshot, Click - snapshot: we see a string of snapshots of blurred bushes and countryside.

The car skids to a halt in a shadowy clearing.

The men dive for the girls.

CUT**EXT. CLEARING -- DAY**

The girls explode out of the car. Instead of running away they run towards the men. They are confused.

They tussle.

Click - SNAPSHOT - the men being thrown against their car.

We see the two men spreadeagled with their arms on top of their car. Their legs are apart.

JAQUIE reaches in to her haversack and pulls out a flimsy picnic knife which she holds between Dave's shoulder blades. While SUZIE leans on JOHN

JAQUIE

You, don't move. Suzie, pass me the fork.

SUZIE passes a flimsy picnic fork.

JAQUIE takes it and presses it between John's shoulder blades.

SUZIE has a thought. She runs around to the other side of the car with the camera and

CUT

EXT. GARDEN. -- DAY

MUM turns over the page.

The letter blows away.

MUM and DAD look at each other as we see the papers blowing over the tree tops we see a single last photograph as it blows away.

Click - SNAPSHOT - The two men, arms spread on the roof of their car, looking seriously pissed off. JAQUIE stands behind them looking like a matador about to kill two bulls at once.

FADE.